

Streetlight Inventory – Field Audit Options

As part of the MEA Streetlight DOE funded grant, a key part of assessing the benefits of converting to LED fixtures is having an accurate inventory of current streetlights.

In order to have an accurate inventory it is imperative to conduct an audit of existing streetlights. Some utilities provide inventories, in different forms, to municipalities but we have found these inventories to be as much as 20% inaccurate, either duplicating or omitting existing streetlights.

At the request of interested communities this summarizes some of the in-house and out-sourced approaches including the current state of best available GIS software tools.

In-House Options

	Manual	Fulcrum app	ArcGIS app
Software needed	Excel spreadsheet and GPS device	Monthly or Annual Subscription	Monthly or Annual Subscription
Cost	Low	Free Trial, \$22/mo/user	Individual subscription to ArcGIS Creator license for \$500 ea. as well as the Field Worker app for \$350 ea.
Devices needed	PC and GPS device	PC and Smartphone	PC and Smartphone
Ease of use/technical expertise required	Easy	Easy, with some app setup assistance	Moderate, technical support needed, unless already hosted/used by municipality for other purposes
Functionality	Simple data collection and tracking via spreadsheet	Data collection of field records, customizable forms with cloud synch for PC access and use	Robust and sophisticated data collection of field records, customizable forms with cloud synch for PC access and use
Estimate of staff time for field data collection	10-15 minutes/light	3 – 5 minutes/light	3 - 5 minutes/light
Number of Streetlights would be recommended for	<50	Any number	Any number
Links	streetlight inventory template	example data collection application (easily modified)	ESRI product overview

Out-Source Options

There are GIS Consulting firms with specific expertise in streetlight retrofit projects and provide services including: hosting and developing the data collection tool, conducting GIS based field audits, and more. Although not a complete list, the following two firms have such experience, have been qualified contractors in prior public procurements and may be of interest to obtain quotes from.

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